Private

LANGFORD HOUSE,
RICHMOND ROAD,
BANGALORE.

9th March 1920.

My dear Mr. Meeza

I return the two files you gave me at Mysore the other day.

In regard to the royalty question, I have carefully gone into the whole matter and there is nothing, I am afraid, that can be done to change the terms of the agreement entered into with the mining companies. The minor point about the tailings is simple and the percentage should be really on the dividends and not as stated in the Government Order, on profits or dividends. I am taking up the whole question of the royalty revenue and have already told the Dewan that I shall separately submit a note for consideration in Council at an early date. The resolution of the Council in this file may, therefore, be approved.

As regards Dr. Smeeth's representation for an increase of pay, I feel disinclined to give an opinion. Personally, I do not think that a case has been made out considering that Dr. Smeeth's main point when the Department was re-

organized,

re-organized was that he should be relieved of the departmental charge and put on light special duty. I do not think that we can saddle the Geological Department with additional burdens nor can we charge such a heavy fee for ~~charging~~ Dr.Smeeth's services on to the Iron Scheme. Dr.Smeeth's permanent pay is Rs.1,800 with a personal allowance of Rs.200. Proposals now made do not make any reference to previous understandings and really involve a substantial rise of Rs.700 in salary. In all probability, Dr.Smeeth will retire in December 1921 and as the work that he now has is considerably lighter and he is also freed from the responsibility of being the Head of 2 Departments - Geology and Mining, and further, as owing to our present financial situation, any expenditure on establishments especially for the higher officers does not seem to be justified, whatever we can spare being more legitimately transferable for the relief of the lower and poorly paid subordinates, I would personally be disinclined to support the proposal which should have been made last year when he was placed on special duty. His pay is now debited as follows: - one-third to the Department of Industries and Commerce, one-third to Iron Scheme, and one-one-third to the Department of Mines and Geology. In calculating the net additional expenditure due to the re-organization of the Geologiaal and Mining Departments, savings were deducted at the above rates to show less recurring expenditure on the re-organization. Then again, Dr. Smeeth has an experienced Assistant on Rs.600 - 700 a month in Mr.Morris. The order was passed only in Sept: last (please see printed G.O. in the file herewith sent for reference and favour of return page 143), and the additional expenditure on the re-organization not taking into account Dr.Smeeth's pay is Rs.1,030 per mensem, to which has to be added one-third of Dr.Smeeth's pay. If, however, in spite of the above considerations, some concession is to be shown to Dr.Smeeth, his pay may be raised from Rs.1,800 to Rs.2,000 per mensem.

Yours sincerely,

C.D.Mayo

Mirza M.Ismail, Esq., B.A.,
Huzur Secretary to His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore.